

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 035099

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 12

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EXCERPT FROM FEBRUARY 12 PRESS
CONFERENCE:

Q. MR. SECRETARY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HAS THIS
WEEK CONSISTENTLY REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE REPORTS OF THE
MICROWAVE BUGGING OF THE EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. WILL YOU NOW
TELL US THE FACTS AND WHAT ACTION YOU HAVE TAKEN TO GET
THE RUSSIANS TO CEASE THIS ACTIVITY, WHICH HAS BEEN GOING
ON FOR YEARS?

ALSO, COULD YOU DISCUSS THE RADIATION HAZARD THAT IS IN-
VOLVED IN THIS?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: THIS ISSUE IS A MATTER OF GREAT
DELICACY WHICH HAS MANY RAMIFICATIONS. OUR OVERWHELMING
CONCERN IS, OF COURSE, THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF STATE
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DEPARTMENT AND OTHER PERSONNEL IN MOSCOW. WE HAVE MADE
UNILATERAL EFFORTS TO REDUCE ANY DANGERS, AND WE ARE ALSO
ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT. BUT I DO NOT

BELIEVE IT WOULD SERVE THESE PURPOSES IF I WENT INTO ANY
GREATER DETAIL.

Q. MAY I FOLLOW IT UP, PLEASE, BECAUSE RADIATION IN
THE MINDS OF MANY AMERICANS MEANS RADIOACTIVITY. CAN
YOU RULE OUT THAT THIS IS RADIOACTIVITY?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I DO NOT KNOW EXACTLY. THESE
MATTERS HAVE TO BE RELATED TO ACCEPTED HEALTH LEVELS,
AND THEY HAVE TO BE RELATED ALSO TO THE SAFETY STANDARDS
OVER A PERIOD OF TIME. I WOULD NOT USE THE WORD "RADIO-
ACTIVITY". KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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